

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating transactions among travel service suppliers and travel service buyers, the system comprising:

~~an integrated travel~~ a communication network comprising a data distribution system;

~~at least one Global Distribution System connected to the integrated travel network;~~

a travel broker database connected to the ~~integrated travel~~ communication network, wherein the travel broker database is configured for access by the travel service suppliers and the travel service buyers;

a travel history database connected to the ~~integrated travel~~ communication network, wherein the travel history database is configured to store information about ~~[[the]]~~ travel transactions; and

~~at least one~~ a point of service terminal ~~that is~~ connected to the communication network, ~~[[and]]~~ wherein the point of service terminal is configured to access the broker database and the travel history database, wherein at least one of the broker database and the travel history database stores information in a plurality of data sets in a plurality of formats.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of data sets are stored as ungrouped data elements formatted as a block of binary via a fixed memory offset.

3. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of data sets are annotated for storage onto a financial transaction instrument with at least one of: a header and a trailer.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating transactions among travel service suppliers and travel service buyers, the method comprising the steps of:

providing ~~an integrated travel~~ a network connected to at least one Global Distribution System a data distribution system, a travel broker database, a travel history ~~database~~ database, and ~~at least one~~ a point of service terminal;

configuring the travel broker database to be accessible by the travel service suppliers and the travel service buyers;

configuring the travel history database to store information about [[the]] travel transactions; and

providing the ~~at least one~~ point of service terminal with access to the broker database and the travel history database; and

storing information into the travel broker database and travel history database as a plurality of data sets in a plurality of formats.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of:

storing the plurality of data sets as ungrouped data elements formatted as a block of binary via a fixed memory offset.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

annotating the plurality of data sets; and

storing the annotated plurality of data sets onto a financial transaction instrument.

7. (Currently Amended) An integrated travel industry system comprising:

~~an integrated travel~~ a communication network;

a plurality of centralized hub sites in communication with said communication network, wherein each of said plurality of centralized hub sites comprises a network connection, a transport mechanism and a redundant data center;

a plurality of ~~Global Distribution Systems~~ data distribution systems connected to ~~each of~~ said plurality of centralized hub sites, wherein said redundant data center of each of said plurality of centralized hub sites is configured to store a database for each of said plurality of ~~Global Distribution Systems~~ data distribution systems; and

a remote site ~~site, wherein said remote site~~ is connected to said communication network, wherein said remote site comprises a point of service terminal

connected to at least one of said plurality of centralized hub sites of said communication network, such that said point of service terminal is configured to access each of said plurality of ~~Global Distribution Systems~~ global distribution systems,

wherein said point of service terminal comprises a ~~Global Distribution System independent travel agent~~ user interface configured to allow simultaneous access to said plurality of ~~Global Distribution Systems~~ global distribution systems and a customer service application tier having at least one ~~[[of]]~~ of: a low fare search module, a super passenger name record database, a customer database, a trip planning module, a customer relationship management module, and a workflow module, and

wherein at least one ~~[[of]]~~ of: the super passenger name record database and customer database stores information in a plurality of data sets in a plurality of formats, and the plurality of data sets are stored as ungrouped data elements formatted as a block of binary via a fixed memory offset.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of data sets are annotated for storage onto a financial transaction instrument.